

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 13590 231559Z
ACTION EUR-12

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SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION CONTINUES AS BIG NEWS ITEM

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1. THERE HAVE BEEN FEW SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO THE ASSASSINATION OF FORMER JUNTA POLICE OFFICIAL EVANGHELOS MALLIOS. GEORGE GEORGALAS, A HIGH-RANKING OFFICIAL IN THE JUNTA AND ALLEGEDLY AN "IDEOLOGIST" OF THE SEVEN-YEAR MILITARY REGIME, HAS BEEN DETAINED. THE AUTHORITIES HAVE OPENED AN INVESTIGATION INTO HIS ROLE AT MALLIOS' FUNERAL DURING WHICH HE IS ACCUSED OF HAVING INCITED THOSE PRESENT WITH HIS FIERY ORATORY ATTACKING THE LEFT AND DEMANDING "AN EYE FOR AN EYE." FIVE OTHER EXTREME RIGHTISTS ARE ALSO BEING SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH THE ATTACKS ON SEVERAL JOURNALISTS WHO WERE INJURED WHILE COVERING THE FUNERAL. AND, ALTHOUGH NOT DIRECTLY CONNECTED, A NEW ANTI-TERRORISM LAW BECAME EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 18TH. THE LEGISLATION SHARPLY RESTRICTS THE TRAFFIC AND POSSESSION OF ARMS AND EXPLOSIVES AND
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PAGE 02 ATHENS 13590 231559Z

IMPOSES INCREASED PENALTIES FOR THOSE CONVICTED OF VIOLATIONS.

2. ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED RADIO AND TELEVISION HAVE PRETTY WELL DROPPED THE STORY FROM THEIR DAILY COVERAGE, THE ENTIRE SPECTRUM OF THE PRESS CONTINUES TO

HANDLE THE MALLIOS CASE AS A PROMINENT ITEM. SPECULATION COVERING A WIDE RANGE OF THEORIES AS TO WHO THE CULPRITS ARE AND WHAT THEIR MOTIVES MIGHT BE DEPENDS ON THE INDIVIDUAL ORIENTATION OF A GIVEN NEWSPAPER. THE RIGHT ACCUSES LEFTIST ASSAILANTS SEEKING REVENGE, WHEREAS THE LEFT CHARGES SINISTER FORCES OF THE RIGHT KILLED MALLIOS IN ORDER TO "DESTABILIZE" GREEK DEMOCRACY. PARALLES CONTINUE TO BE MADE BETWEEN THE MURDER LAST YEAR OF EMBASSY OFFICER RICHARD WELCH AND MALLIOS' DEATH LAST WEEK. BASING THEIR STORIES LARGELY ON A RECENT SPECULATIVE PIECE BY CORRESPONDENT MARY ANN WEAVER APPEARING IN THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, MANY JOURNALISTS DWELL ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF SEVERAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES IN THE INVESTIGATION, INCLUDING THE CIA AND THE KGB.

3. A NEW WRINKLE IN THE PAST TWO DAYS, HOWEVER, ARE REPORTS DETELINED PARIS THAT "LIBERATION," A LEFTIST NEWSPAPER IN THE FRENCH CAPITAL, HAS RECEIVED AND PUBLISHED FLYERS CONNECTED TO THE WELCH AND MALLIOS KILLINGS WHICH ATTRIBUTED BOTH TO THE 17TH OF NOVEMBER ORGANIZATION. ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS, "LIBERATION" WILL PUBLISH TOMOROW (DECEMBER 24), FOLLOWING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF WELCH'S DEATH, AN EXPLANATION BY THE 17TH OF NOVEMBER ORGANIZATION AS TO HOW AND WHY IT KILLED HIM.
KUBISCH

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